

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1, 3, 9, and 14 by rewriting as follows:

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for preventing the spread of disease through a knife when cutting seed potatoes by eliminating said knife and for cutting seed potatoes for planting with a liquid comprising the steps of:

supplying seed potatoes for planting;

sizing said seed potatoes by separating seed potatoes for cutting into seed;

supplying a chamber with a water jet passing across said chamber;

moving said seed potatoes for cutting through said water jet; and

cutting said seed potato completely through with said water jet.

2. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 1 wherein the spent water from said water jet cut is collected by a discharge tube.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 2 wherein the water used by said water jet contains a chemical additive ~~termination point of said water jet is supplied by said discharge tube.~~

4. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 3 wherein at least two water jets are used to make multiple cuts on said seed potatoes.

5. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 1.

6. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 2.

7. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 3

8. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 4.

9. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for cutting seed potatoes and of preventing the spread of disease caused by a cutting knife by eliminating the use of said knife comprising the steps of:

supplying seed potatoes for planting;

sizing said seed potatoes by separating seed potatoes for cutting into seed using a sorter;

holding said seed potatoes in a stable position;

moving said seed potatoes for cutting through at least one high pressure water jet; and

cutting said seed potato completely through with said high pressure water jet.

10. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein a liquid source is supplied to said high pressure water jet.

11. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 10 wherein the spent liquid from the high pressure water jet cut is directed away from said high pressure water jet by a discharge tube.

12. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED) The method of claim 11 wherein the termination point of said water jet is supplied by said discharge tube.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method of claim 9 wherein at least two water jets are used to make multiple cuts on said seed potatoes.

14. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method of claim 9 wherein said liquid source contains water and a chemical additive ~~water jet is supplied by a stream of liquid of at least 10,000 pounds per square inch.~~

15. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 9.

16. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 10.

17. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 11

18. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 12.

19. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 13.

20. (ORIGINAL) A cut seed potato produced by the method of claim 14.